

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 152**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Huffman**

May 3, 2012

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 152—Relative to Dwarfism Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 152, as introduced, Huffman. Dwarfism Awareness Month.

This measure would declare the month of October 2012 as Dwarfism Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is considered to be a rare medical  
2 condition, with an estimated 3,500 people with dwarfism residing  
3 in the State of California, over 30,000 people in the United States,  
4 and over 650,000 in the world with a type of dwarfism; and  
5 WHEREAS, Dwarfism affects bone growth, but generally does  
6 not affect cognitive abilities. The typical height range for people  
7 with dwarfism is 2 feet 8 inches to 4 feet 5 inches; and  
8 WHEREAS, About eighty percent of people with dwarfism  
9 have average-height parents and siblings, and there are over 250  
10 distinct forms of dwarfism. The most prevalent types are  
11 Achondroplasia, Diastrophic Dysplasia, Pseudoachondroplasia,  
12 Spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia congenita (SEDc), and Cartilage-hair  
13 hypoplasia (CHH); and  
14 WHEREAS, Dwarfism is a recognized condition under the  
15 federal Americans with Disabilities Act; and

1 WHEREAS, The medical prognosis for people with dwarfism  
2 varies from condition to condition, and with the severity of that  
3 condition in each individual. However, the majority of people with  
4 dwarfism enjoy normal intelligence, normal life spans, and  
5 reasonably good health. Many will require surgeries or other  
6 medical interventions to address complications and maximize  
7 mobility; and

8 WHEREAS, The term “midget” is antiquated and is considered  
9 offensive to most people with dwarfism; and

10 WHEREAS, The preferred terminology for someone with  
11 dwarfism is “person of short stature,” “having dwarfism,” or “little  
12 person”; and

13 WHEREAS, People with dwarfism can turn to support  
14 organizations such as the Little People of America (LPA) for  
15 guidance on parenting, adoption, education, medical consultation,  
16 physical fitness, peer support, community outreach, and advocacy;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, LPA is the nation’s oldest and largest support  
19 organization for people with dwarfism and is headquartered in  
20 Orange County, California; and

21 WHEREAS, LPA is dedicated to improving the quality of life  
22 for people with dwarfism, while celebrating with great pride their  
23 contributions to social diversity; and

24 WHEREAS, People with dwarfism contribute to the strength  
25 of California’s economy by being productive members of the  
26 workforce, representing numerous careers and professions; now,  
27 therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
29 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby declares the month  
30 of October 2012 as Dwarfism Awareness Month, in order to raise  
31 public awareness about people with dwarfism and their  
32 contributions to the State of California; and be it further

33 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
34 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.